

ABSTRACT:

The invention relates to a method of segmenting a three-dimensional structure, contained in an object, from one or more two-dimensional images which represent a slice of the object. The method utilizes a deformable model whose surface is formed by a network of meshes which connect network points on the surface of the model to one another. First there are determined the meshes which intersect at least one image and a point on the surface of the structure to be segmented is searched along a search line which traverses the mesh and extends in the image. Subsequently, the position of the network points of the model is calculated anew. These steps are repeated a number of times and the model ultimately obtained, that is, after several deformations, is considered to be the segmentation of the three-dimensional structure from the two-dimensional images.

Fig. 3